

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has addressed the rejection with the foregoing amendment.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,496,507 (hereinafter "Nyudou").

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). (Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) ¶ 2143.03).

Independent claims 1, 7, 9, and 12 of the present application include limitations not disclosed or taught by Nyudou. As a result, claims 1, 7, 9, and 12 are patentable over Nyudou.

In particular, applicant's claims, as amended, include the limitation, or a limitation similar there to, of:

determining a power state of a first system, the power state to be one of at least a first and second power states, the second power state to consume less power than the first power state; and
in response to the system being in the second power state, switching a serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA) link from the first system to a link with an autonomous subsystem.
(Applicant's claim 1 as amended).

Nyudou, however, does not disclose nor suggest the limitations as claimed by applicant. More specifically, Nyudou is limited to disclosing determining if a power switch of a computer is in either a off state or on state.

Therefore, in view of applicant's independent claims including limitations that are not disclosed nor suggested by Nyudou, applicant's independent claims are patentable over Nyudou.

In addition, the remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims as discussed above, and therefore include similar limitations, and as a result are also patentable over Nyudou.

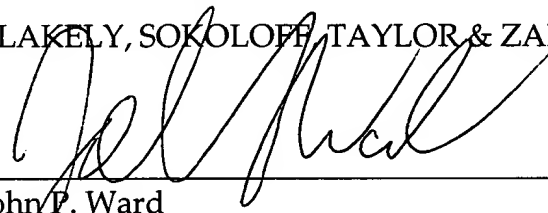
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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